

**Port Adelaide Environment Forum
Minutes of Meeting 21 June 2007**



Meeting opened at 7.00pm with welcome from Lee Grigg

Port River Expressway – Our enviro-friendly link

David Bartlett – Project Director, Port River Expressway, DTEI

Alecia Wright – Project Manager, Port River Expressway, DTEI

Matt Allan - Senior Construction Manager, Abigroup Contractors

- Port River Expressway Project comprises three stages:
 - Stage 1:** 5.5 kilometre four-lane expressway link between Francis Street and South Road with overpasses at the junctions of South Road, Hanson Road and Eastern Parade
 - Stage 2:** four lane opening Road Bridge across the Port River between Docks 1 and 2, linking the Expressway to Victoria Road and Francis Street
 - Stage 3:** single track, dual gauge opening Rail Bridge across the Port River north of the Road Bridge with connections to the existing rail system
- **Stage 1:** Opened to traffic on 19 July 2005
 - \$91.5 million of roadworks
 - In excess of 20,000 vehicles are travelling via the expressway per day
 - Expected to carry 40,000 vehicles by 2011
 - Saving 15 minutes in travel time to Port Adelaide
- **Stage 2 & 3:** Total project cost \$178 million
 - Contract awarded to Abigroup in July 2005
 - Completion late 2007
- **The Port River Expressway consists of:**
 - A four-lane road bridge 300m in length
 - A single track, dual gauge rail bridge 770m in length
 - Local road works
 - Rail Adjustment works in Port Flat Yard
- **Challenging construction aspects of the project include:**
 - Twin single leaf Bascule bridges for road and rail. This is the first of their kind in SA and Australia
 - Rail track works through an operating fertiliser plant
 - Work around two 50,000 Lt Sulphuric Acid tanks
 - Work within a National Dolphin Sanctuary
 - Work within an active business environment
 - Work within an established community
- **Air Quality**

Currently, Port Adelaide experiences heavy road freight and rail freight travelling stop-start through residential areas. Without the expressway, air quality will continue to decline in the road network
- **Aims to reduce pollution through:**
 - reduced idling at intersections
 - reduced acceleration and deceleration
 - reduced distances travelled
 - relocate away from residential area
 - encouraging cycling and walking
 - improving rail freight network
 - extensive planting of vegetation
- Travel distance of trains reduced by 4km - reduction of diesel combustion emissions

- Rail freight route removed from residential areas and Port Adelaide Centre – no longer have to negotiate the Viaduct
- Design of bridges open - promotes dispersal of pollutants
- Low risk of effects to flora, fauna & water quality
- Significant improvements in Port Adelaide Centre, Victoria Road (south), residential areas around Rosewater and Glanville
- **Biodiversity**
 Busy arterial road situated in highly developed urban area – potential for *meaningful* biodiversity or habitat is limited
 Amenity value to the community significant
 Sustainability of plantings considered in context of conditions and amenity value important in species selection.
 Aim to provide landscape which is: Sustainable, Provides amenity, Increases biodiversity
- Factors considered in sustainability:

indigenous species	suit local conditions
minimise pesticides	no impact on infrastructure – sightlines, frangibility, visibility of frontages
safety and security	water-wise
not become weeds	form, shape, size, density – available space
resilience to unfavourable conditions	maintenance
- **Noise** - Noise impacts considered for;
 Opening mechanism – well below guidelines and not discernable above traffic noise
 Wheel squeal improved by maximising the radius of curves – low risk of wheel squeal with new alignment
 Noise of rail over steel bridge – enclosed on both sides (acts as a noise wall)
- Road traffic noise on Victoria Road currently exceeds desirable noise guidelines
 Between Swigg St and Semaphore Road – noise reduced due to:
 - Road moved further away - closed to through traffic
 - Rail line removed
 - Mound with noise-reducing properties
- Noise treatment has been offered to 30 residences between Swigg Street and Wills Street. Options include;

2.1m fence with gate	Double-glazing
Upgrade of current fence	Contributions toward fence of choice

 - Will result in a noise reduction of 5-8dB – brings within guidelines
 - Upgrade to Victoria Road verge and drive-ways part of upgrade
- Updates of the progress associated with the project can be viewed at www.dtei.sa.gov.au
- If you would like to speak to a representative from the Port River Expressway project about construction or general issues please call 1300 130 653.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm with supper.

NB Members, please take note of any parking restrictions when parking in front of the Town Hall. The area is patrolled by after hours inspectors.